

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 12 and 14 - 20 are pending in the present application and stand rejected as being obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103 over various combinations of Marrast et al. (U.S. Patent number 3,926,257) Arfaei et al. (U.S. Patent number 5,348,583) and commercial documentation relating to PolarSet®. Claims 1, 14 and 20 are amended herein.

Applicants note that the '257 patent teaches processes for cementing well which prevents formation gas diffusion through the cement (col. 1, lines 4 - 10) by creating a foam barrier within the pores of the cement, with the use of foaming surfactants, which serves to reduce gas permeation from the formation (col. 1, line 63 to 66). Applicants also note that the '583 patent is directed to cement for use in concrete in the construction and building industry where binding to reinforcing steel is a primary objective. Also, the '583 patent does not suggest that the admixture described therein would be applicable in a foamed slurry. Therefore, combining the cementing processes taught in the '257 patent with the cement compositions of the '583 would not provide a cementing method according to the present invention.

Applicants intend this paper to be a full response to the office action dated December 21, 2004. It is submitted that the claims now pending in this application are in better condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and claims and its allowance. If the Examiner believes that the prosecution of the application would be facilitated by a telephone interview, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at 281-285-8606. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 04-1579 (56.0615).

Respectfully submitted,



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